

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-4 (canceled):

Claim 5 (currently amended): A method for preparing A-type crystals of N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine methyl ester, comprising:

crystallizing N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine methyl ester from a solution comprising N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine methyl ester and a solvent, to obtain A-type crystals of N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine methyl ester,

wherein said solvent is selected from the group consisting of water and mixtures of water and a lower alcohol,

wherein said crystallizing is carried out such that the temperature of said solution is maintained above ~~30°C~~ 47°C until onset of nucleation of said A-type N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine methyl ester.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The method of Claim 5, wherein said solvent is a mixture of water and methanol.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The method of Claim 6, wherein said methanol is present in said solvent in an amount of 15 wt.% or less, based on the total weight of said solvent.

Claim 8 (previously presented): The method of Claim 5, wherein said solvent is water.

Claims 9-11 (canceled).

Claim 12 (currently amended): A method for preparing A-type crystals of N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine methyl ester, comprising:

crystallizing N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine methyl ester from a solution comprising N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine methyl ester and a solvent, to obtain A-type crystals of N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine methyl ester,

wherein said solvent is selected from the group consisting of water and mixtures of water and a lower alcohol,

wherein said crystallizing is carried out in the presence of seed crystals of A-type N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine methyl ester.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The method of Claim 12, wherein said solvent is a mixture of water and methanol.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The method of Claim 13, wherein said methanol is present in said solvent in an amount of 15 wt.% or less, based on the total weight of said solvent.

Claim 15 (previously presented): The method of Claim 12, wherein said solvent is water.

Claim 16 (previously presented): The method of Claim 5, wherein said A-type crystals of N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine methyl ester exhibit a CuK $\alpha$  x-ray diffraction pattern having characteristic peaks expressed in degrees  $2\theta$  at  $6.0^\circ$ ,  $8.2^\circ$ ,  $16.5^\circ$ , and  $24.8^\circ$ .

Claim 17 (previously presented): The method of Claim 12, wherein said A-type crystals of N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine methyl ester exhibit a CuK $\alpha$  x-ray diffraction pattern having characteristic peaks expressed in degrees  $2\theta$  at  $6.0^\circ$ ,  $8.2^\circ$ ,  $16.5^\circ$ , and  $24.8^\circ$ .

Claim 18 (previously presented): The method of Claim 12, wherein said seed crystals of A-type crystals of N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine methyl ester exhibit a CuK $\alpha$  x-ray diffraction pattern having characteristic peaks expressed in degrees  $2\theta$  at  $6.0^\circ$ ,  $8.2^\circ$ ,  $16.5^\circ$ , and  $24.8^\circ$ .

Claim 19 (previously presented): A method for preparing A-type crystals of N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine methyl ester, comprising:

crystallizing N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine methyl ester from a solution comprising N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine methyl ester and a solvent, to obtain A-type crystals of N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine methyl ester,

wherein said solvent is selected from the group consisting of water and mixtures of water and a lower alcohol,

wherein said crystallizing is carried out such that the temperature of said solution is maintained at 40°C to 50°C until onset of nucleation of said A-type N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine methyl ester.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The method of Claim 19, wherein said solvent is a mixture of water and methanol.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The method of Claim 20, wherein said methanol is present in said solvent in an amount of 15 wt.% or less, based on the total weight of said solvent.

Claim 22 (previously presented): The method of Claim 19, wherein said solvent is water.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The method of Claim 19, wherein said A-type crystals of N-[N-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-L- $\alpha$ -aspartyl]-L-phenylalanine methyl ester exhibit a CuK $\alpha$  x-ray diffraction pattern having characteristic peaks expressed in degrees 2 $\theta$  at 6.0°, 8.2°, 16.5°, and 24.8°.

Claims 24- 29 (canceled).